

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

ELIZABETH WEAR, JOHN BUTCHER, and
CARMEN WORSTELL, on behalf of
themselves and all others similarly-situated.

CASE NO. 2:11-cv-809-KJD-GWF

Plaintiffs.

SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY
L.P.; QWEST COMMUNICATIONS
COMPANY, LLC; LEVEL 3
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC; and WILTEL
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC.

Defendants,

FILED	RECEIVED
ENTERED	SERVED ON
COUNSEL/PARTIES OF RECORD	
JUN 18 2013	
CLERK US DISTRICT COURT	
DISTRICT OF NEVADA	
BY:	DEPUTY

**ORDER AND JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS-ACTION SETTLEMENT AND
DIRECTING NOTICE OF FINAL APPROVAL.**

WHEREAS, the parties to the above-captioned class action (the “Action”) entered into a Nevada Class Settlement Agreement (the “Settlement Agreement”), as of September 6, 2012 and agreed to an Amendment to Nevada Class Settlement Agreement on May 10, 2013 (collectively the “Settlement Agreement”) (terms capitalized herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Settlement Agreement); and

WHEREAS, Defendants and the Plaintiffs in the Action moved under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b) for an order certifying the class for settlement purposes, and under Rule 23(e) for an order preliminarily approving the proposed settlement of the Class Members' claims in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and approving the form and plan of notice as set forth in the Settlement Agreement;

1 WHEREAS, in its Order entered on October 9, 2012 (the "Preliminary Approval Order"),
2 the Court provisionally ordered that this Action may be settled as a class action on behalf of the
3 following class:

4 A class (the "Settlement Class") defined as:

5 a class comprising all Persons who own or who claim to own, for any
6 period of time during a Compensation Period, any Covered Property, *provided*,
7 that "Settlement Class" or "Class" does not include: (1) Right-of-Way Providers
8 and their predecessors, successors, parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates, past or
9 present; (2) federal, state, and local governmental entities; (3) Native American
nations and tribes; or (4) any Person who files a valid and timely exclusion on or
before the Opt-Out Deadline.

10 WHEREAS, the Preliminary Approval Order also approved the forms of notice of the
11 Settlement to Class Members and directed that appropriate notice of the Settlement be given to
12 Class Members;

13 WHEREAS, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and the Preliminary Approval
14 Order: (1) the Settlement Administrator caused to be mailed to Class Members the Notice of
15 Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and Settlement Hearing ("Notice") on March 1, 2013 and
16 caused to be published the Summary Notice of Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and
17 Settlement Hearing ("Summary Notice"); (2) an Affidavit of Mailing and Publication of the
18 Notice and Publication of the Summary Notice was filed with the Court prior to this hearing; and
19 (3) the Affidavit of Mailing and Publication filed with this Court demonstrates compliance with
20 the Preliminary Approval Order with respect to the Notice and the Summary Notice and, further,
21 that the best notice practicable under the circumstances was, in fact, given;

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1 WHEREAS, on June 18, 2013, this Court held a hearing on whether the Settlement
2 Agreement is fair, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of the Class (the "Fairness
3 Hearing"); and

4 WHEREAS, based upon the foregoing, having heard the statements of counsel for the
5 Parties and of such persons as chose to appear at the Fairness Hearing; having considered all of
6 the files, records, and proceedings in the Action, the benefits to the Class under the Settlement
7 Agreement, and the risks, complexity, expense, and probable duration of further litigation; and
8 being fully advised in the premises,

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10 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT:

11 1. The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action,
12 and personal jurisdiction over the Plaintiffs, Class Members, and the Defendants.

13 2. The Class Representatives and their counsel fairly and adequately represent the
14 interests of the Class Members in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

15 3. The Settlement Agreement is the product of good-faith, arm's-length negotiations
16 by the Class Representatives and their counsel, and Settling Defendants and their counsel, and
17 the representatives of the Settlement Class and Settling Defendants were represented by capable
18 and experienced counsel.

19 4. The form, content, and method of dissemination of the notice given to Class
20 Members, including both published notice and individual notice to all Class Members who could
21 be identified through reasonable effort, were adequate and reasonable and constituted the best
22 notice practicable under the circumstances.

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1 5. The Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests
2 of Class Members, and is approved in all respects, and the parties are directed to perform and
3 satisfy the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement.

4 6. Class Members shall be permitted to make claims for the benefits described in the
5 Settlement Agreement, subject to the conditions and limitations stated herein.

6 7. The certification of the Settlement Class, under Rules 23(b)(3) and 23(e), solely
7 for settlement purposes, is hereby confirmed.

8 8. The notice, as given, complied with the requirements of Rule 23, satisfied the
9 requirements of due process, and constituted due and sufficient notice of the matters set forth
10 therein.

11 9. After this Order and Judgment has become Final, an order awarding attorneys'
12 fees to Settlement Class Counsel with respect to the Settlement Agreement becomes Final, and
13 all periods during which any Party to the Settlement Agreement may exercise a right of
14 withdrawal have expired (hereafter "the Effective Date"), the Settling Defendants and all other
15 Released Parties, including, without limitation, the Right-of-Way Providers listed in Exhibit L to
16 the Settlement Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference
17 herein, shall be released from any and all Settlement Claims that any Class Member (and all
18 successors in interest) had, has, or may have in the future, against the Settling Defendants or any
19 other Released Party. This Release may be enforced by any Released Party.

20 10. All Settlement Claims of any Class Member (and the successors in interest of all
21 members of the Settlement Class) are hereby dismissed. Upon the Effective Date, such dismissal
22 shall be with prejudice.

1 11. Upon the Effective Date, all Class Members (and the successors in interest of all
2 members of the Settlement Class) shall be barred and permanently enjoined from instituting,
3 asserting, or prosecuting against a Settling Defendant or any other Released Party, including,
4 without limitation, the Right-of-Way Providers listed in Exhibit L to the Settlement Agreement,
5 any and all Settlement Claims they have, had, or may have in the future, against a Settling
6 Defendant or any other Released Party, except any claims for enforcement of the Settlement
7 Agreement.

9 12. The various forms of the Claim for Landowner Benefits and Releases of Claims
10 (the "Claim Form"), and the Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed, set forth as
11 Exhibits G, J and J(1), and H respectively, to the Settlement Agreement, are approved. In order
12 to receive Benefits under the Settlement Agreement, all Class Members must comply with the
13 requirements for making and documenting a Claim that are set forth in that Settlement
14 Agreement.

16 13. All Class Members who are Current Landowners, regardless of whether they file
17 a Claim, are hereby ordered to execute and deliver, after the Effective Date, a
18 Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed to the Claims Administrator in favor of each
19 Settling Defendant whose Telecommunications Cable System was installed on Covered Property
20 owned by the Class Member.

21 14. In order to receive Benefits, each Current Landowner who submits a Qualified
22 Claim must execute a Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed.

24 15. Upon the Effective Date, the Claims Administrator shall be authorized under
25 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 70 to execute and deliver to each Settling Defendant a Claims
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1 Administrator Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed, substantially in the form of
2 Exhibit I to the Settlement Agreement, on behalf of all Class Members who are Current
3 Landowners and who do not personally execute and deliver a Telecommunications Cable System
4 Easement Deed. Any Class Member who is a Current Landowner and who does not file a Claim
5 may rely upon the Claims Administrator to execute and deliver to each Settling Defendant the
6 Claims Administrator Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed.
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8 16. The Claims Administrator is hereby appointed as attorney in fact for each Class
9 Member who is a Current Landowner, with power and authority, upon the Effective Date, to
10 execute and deliver a Claims Administrator Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed,
11 substantially in the form of Exhibit I to the Settlement Agreement, to the applicable Settling
12 Defendants and to authorize such Settling Defendants to record such Claims Administrator
13 Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed as provided in Section IV.C.2 of the
14 Settlement Agreement.
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16 17. Upon the Effective Date, the Settling Defendants or Settlement Class Counsel
17 may, at their respective option and cost file, record and/or index the Easement Deed by Court
18 Order in Settlement of Landowner Action, entered contemporaneously with this Order and
19 Judgment, or notice thereof, and any executed Telecommunications Cable System Easement
20 Deed, on behalf of any Class Member, in the judgment or land records of the county in which the
21 real estate is located as provided in IV.C.2 of the Settlement Agreement. The Court retains
22 jurisdiction, as provided pursuant to Section VIII.A.1.(n) of the Settlement Agreement, to enter
23 supplemental orders and judgments to effectuate the recordation of any and all rights conveyed
24 to the Settling Defendants under the Settlement Agreement.
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1 18. The expenses of administering the Settlement Agreement shall be paid from the
2 Administrative Account in the manner set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

3 19. Upon the Effective Date, the Released Parties shall be released by all Class
4 Members from any and all claims, damages, costs, expenses, and other liabilities of every kind
5 and nature whatsoever as a result of or in any way in connection with the filing, recordation, or
6 indexing of the Easement Deed by Court Order Deed in Settlement of Landowner Action, or
7 notice thereof, or any Telecommunications Cable System Easement Deed, except claims to
8 enforce the Settlement Agreement and/or this Order.

10 20. It is hereby declared, adjudged, and decreed that, upon the Effective Date, the
11 Settlement Agreement provides the exclusive remedy for any and all Settlement Claims of
12 Settlement Class Members (and any successors in interest) against the Settling Defendants and
13 any and all other Released Parties.

15 21. Upon the Effective Date, all claims against the Class Representatives, or their
16 counsel or any of them, arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Action shall be
17 released by the Settling Defendants and their counsel, and they shall be permanently enjoined
18 and barred from instituting, asserting, or prosecuting any and all claims that the Settling
19 Defendants or their counsel or any of them had, have, or may in the future have against the Class
20 Representatives or their counsel, except claims to enforce the Settlement Agreement and/or this
21 Order.

23 22. Upon the Effective Date, all Class Members (and all successors in interest),
24 whether or not they file a Claim for Landowner Benefits, shall be permanently enjoined and
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1 barred from instituting, asserting or prosecuting, either directly or as a class representative, any
2 Settlement Claims.

3 23. The form of the Notice of Final Approval of Settlement, set forth as Exhibit F to
4 the Settlement Agreement, is approved. Upon this Order and Judgment becoming Final, the
5 Settlement Administrator shall within thirty (30) days thereafter cause the Notice of Final
6 Approval Package to be sent by United States mail, first class postage prepaid, to all Class
7 Members who have been identified, who requested copies, or who otherwise came to the Claims
8 Administrator's attention.

9 24. Any claims by the Settling Defendants against any Right of Way Providers,
10 insurers or other third parties for contribution, indemnification, or insurance benefits, are not
11 barred, released, or otherwise affected by the Settlement Agreement or this Order and Judgment.

12 25. Incentive awards to the Class Representatives in the following amount are
13 reasonable and are approved: Elizabeth Wear: \$3,200, John Butcher: \$3,200, and Carmen
14 Worstell: \$1,300.

15 26. Defendants shall deposit any attorneys' fee award approved by the Court, which
16 shall not exceed the Maximum Attorneys' Fee Award, into the interest-bearing escrow account
17 established with U.S. Bank in New York, New York, no later than ten (10) days after the date on
18 which the Order and Judgment becomes Final.

19 27. The Court hereby reserves its exclusive, general, and continuing jurisdiction over
20 the parties to the Settlement Agreement, including Defendants and all Class Members, as needed
21 or appropriate in order to administer, supervise, implement, interpret, or enforce the Settlement
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1 Agreement in accordance with its terms, including the investment, conservation, protection of
2 settlement funds prior to distribution, and distribution of settlement funds.

3 28. In the event that any Settling Defendant withdraws from the Settlement
4 Agreement, the portions of this Order and Judgment that are issued to implement that Agreement
5 shall have no further force and effect as to that Settling Defendant, any Class Member who has a
6 claim against that Settling Defendant, and any Person who would have been released or
7 otherwise affected by that Settling Defendant's Designation of Right of Way. Withdrawal from
8 the Settlement Agreement shall not affect the provisions of this Order and Judgment that relate to
9 Settling Defendants who do not withdraw.

11 29. If this Order and Judgment is not a final judgment as to all claims presented in the
12 Action, the Court hereby determines, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(b), that
13 there is no just reason to delay the appeal of all claims as to which final judgment is entered.
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15 Date: June 18, 2013


Honorable Kent J. Dawson
United States District Judge

EXHIBIT L

Released Right-of-Way Providers

Union Pacific Corporation, Union Pacific Railroad Company, Southern Pacific Rail Corporation (together "Union Pacific"); and any of the predecessors-in-interest, predecessors-in-title, successors-in-interest, successors-in-title, members, partners, affiliates, lessees, subsidiaries, parents, assigns, related entities, agencies or officials of and any railroads or terminal railroads wholly owned or partially owned by each of the Right-of-Way Providers named above.